

MINUTES

Committee Members:

Jacques DeBra, City of Davis	Stefan Lorenzato, YCFC&WCD
Don Peart, Colusa County Water District	Max Stevenson, YCFC&WCD
Doug Baxter, City of Woodland	Mark Cocke, City of Woodland
Donita Hendrix, Dunnigan Water District	Robin Kulakow, Yolo Basin Foundation
Bill Brewster, DWR	Donna Gentile, WRA

Other Attendees:

Bob Schneider, Tuleyome	Dave Pratt
Stephen McCord, Larry Walker Assoc.	

Committee Members Absent:

Reclamation District 108	UC Davis
Reclamation District 2035	City of West Sacramento
City of Winters	Yolo County

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Jacques DeBra.
2. **APPROVAL AGENDA & Adding Items to Posted Agenda** – Jacques added an item to discuss the May WRA Board meeting format for a water bond panel discussion.
3. **APPROVE MEETING MINUTES** – Previous meeting minutes were emailed to the TC for review with today's agenda. Comments on the 4/8/10 draft minutes are due by 5/10/10.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – No comments from the public.
5. **DWR UPDATE** – Bill Brewster, DWR, informed that the California Water Plan Update has been released in 5 Volumes. DWR is continuing to post sections of the plan on their website. Bill distributed a flyer on SBX7 6 – California Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program that includes a legislation overview, links and frequently asked questions. This flyer can be viewed at: http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/elevation_monitoring/outreach.cfm. The PPT presentation from the April IRWMP public meeting is now posted on DWR's website: http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/integregio_new10.cfm. Staff is reviewing comments received and will post a final PSP in about two months. The application, review and selection process will happen in stages. The Round 1 planning and implementation solicitations will be received around July 2010 with an 8 to 10 week review and selection period. The Storm Water Flood Management applications will be received around September 2010 with a 4 month review and selection process. Lastly, the LGA Grant process will begin around November 2010. See the April PPT presentation for additional details.

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Stefan provided a few additional updates. DWR is undergoing an audit of all their bond funding (initiated by the legislature). The same staff responding to the audit are also responsible for the PSP's which might cause some further delays. Work continues on the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, which is due to be completed next year. A draft will be developed and available for public review when the stakeholder workshops are finished.

Max inquired about the YFCWCD's reimbursement request for their AB303 grant. An invoice was sent to DWR about six months ago and payment is still pending. Bill offered to check on the status of the District's reimbursement.

6. WATER LEGISLATION UPDATE (Tim O'Halloran, YCFC&WCD/Warren Westrup, Yolo County)

This item was not discussed since Tim and other TC members are attending the ACWA conference.

7. YOLO COUNTY IRWMP UPDATE PROCESS:

a) Update on 2010 IRWMP Action Status Tables- Jacques explained the handouts distributed at today's meeting. A master list of IRWMP was distributed which includes all the actions originally included in the adopted IRWMP (2007). The second list categorizes the original actions into 10 separate tables.

Tables 1-3 list the projects that attained some level of accomplishments since 2007. Jacques requested that the lead partners supply the cost of the accomplishment or improved. This gives the WRA Board a sense of the dollar amount of projects implemented in Yolo County.

Table 4 lists project that either had no activity or still need to provide updated information.

Table 5 contains actions that were deleted or modified due to a change in the strategic approach for that action or group of actions. Bill Brewster suggested that the table clearly lists whether the action was deleted or modified by another column designation (D or M).

Table 6 contains actions to be implemented before 2020, which are near-term priority milestone projects.

Table 7 contains actions to be implemented after 2020 that captures lower priority actions that have a longer planning or implementation horizon.

Table 8 is meant to capture current projects that may be eligible for Proposition 84 implementation funding.

Table 9 includes projects with multi-regional characteristics that will blend with the 5 county IRWMP development under the Westside Regional Water Management Group.

Table 10 will include any new projects/actions proposed for inclusion in the IRWMP update.

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These tables are still a work in progress. Lead partners are requested to finish completing information requests by the end of May, so Monique has time to update the tables for the June 3rd TC meeting. Donna will send an email to all lead partners with a detailed request.

- b) Review sample scope/schedule/budget information – A sample report was distributed that is proposed to be used to describe projects in Table 6 – Actions to be implemented before 2020. All projects listed in Table 6 will be requested to fill out this simple sample report with scope, schedule and budget information.
- c) Discuss strategic approaches for developing priority actions – Not discussed.
- d) Next Steps: Consolidate actions, continue updating action plans– See action items below. Stefan recommended that the actions eventually be returned to a categorization by resource management issues in order to present to outside agencies for funding opportunities. Current organization would not make sense to someone who is not very familiar with our IRWMP. Eventually the TC will need to generate an Executive Summary for assimilation by the WRA Board, their respective boards and the public.

ACTION ITEMS (for Lead Partners):

- Fill-in all IRWMP actions tables with project information previously emailed and verify information is correct by end of May.
- Fill-in Table 1 to include costs for accomplished projects listed by end of May.
- Update Table 6 to include a scope/schedule/budget for each project listed similar to sample provided by end of June.

8. DISCUSS CACHE CREEK MERCURY ISSUES – context: IRWMP update process

- a) Tuleyome’s letter (Bob Schneider) -
- b) Delta Tributaries Mercury Council Update (a committee under the Sacramento River Watershed Program facilitated by Stephen McCord) -

Bob Schneider and Stephen McCord coordinated presenting this update on the mercury TMDLs impacting Yolo County and potential IRWMP roles. Bob explained Tuleyome’s letter to the WRA, YFCWCDC and the Solano County Water Agency recommending the addition of an IRWMP Foundational Action to develop and implement a mercury risk reduction strategy. Tuleyome offered to submit a proposal to begin developing a section for the IRWMP, identify stakeholders, collect available maps and studies and work with elected officials and agencies to outline a mercury risk reduction strategy for our region. This becomes more relevant for the watershed as a regional multi-county IRWMP is developed.

Stephen began with an overview of the regional picture of mercury impairment listings statewide for context. Many science studies have been conducted within the last decade to understand mercury TMDL issues. Studies continue such as the Yolo Bypass wetlands mercury control study, publicly owned treatment works (POTW) mercury analysis, and mercury load reduction projects study in the Cache Creek watershed. Stephen explained

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that the Regional Board is following an adaptive management approach in two phases: Phase 1- control studies and Phase 2- implementation of mercury controls. A draft Adaptive Management Plan for Implementing the Delta Methylmercury Control Program is being developed. The Plan proposes issue resolution-based work groups and outlines stakeholder group representation (regulators, regulated entities and other Delta stakeholders). Moving forward, there is a 318 grant funded by the EPA administered by the Regional Board. The Sacramento River Watershed Program received one of two 319(h) grants approved in the Sacramento area to organize a non-point source workgroup for irrigated ag lands identified in the TMDL and conduct various collaborative control studies. For more information about the Delta Tributaries Mercury Council: <http://www.sacriver.org/issues/mercury/dtmc/>. Participating groups should seek funding opportunities to continue control and exposure assessment studies while developing adaptive management and exposure reduction strategies.

Stephen discussed specific areas impacted in Yolo County, related projects to the IRWMP and responsibilities of agencies/stakeholders for the Cache Creek Settling Basin, the Yolo Bypass, Putah Creek, and BLM mine sites. A new group becoming active in mercury issues is the Department of Toxic Substance Control who received EPA funding for an exposure assessment study. The types of projects that will trigger mercury TMDL production investigations are those that require dredging, changes to habitat or increased flooding, flood control, water and salinity management. DWR, the State Board, USACE, Flood Protection Board, US Bureau of Reclamation, State Lands Commission, US Fish & Wildlife, California Fish & Game and the EPA are all called to task to address methylmercury issues for their projects. Stephen suggested that the WRA can develop a stakeholder driven TMDL and deliver to the Regional Board for their review. Regional partner collaboration would require funding to identify the sites, do the monitoring and write the TMDL.

Bob Schneider stated that currently there is a lack of coordination on mercury issues throughout the Cache Creek and Putah Creek watersheds. He elaborated on Tuleyome's letter of inquiry and whether the WRA had an interest to develop this as a new foundational action. Jacques summarized the TC recommendation to add a mercury issues foundational action to the IRWMP new projects list. This would also serve as a policy placeholder to demonstrate the WRA's involvement in mercury issues in Yolo County.

ACTION ITEM: Add a new IRWMP foundational action to the new projects list related mercury issues in Yolo County watershed. Tuleyome will take the lead with the assistance of Stephen McCord and some members of the TC to develop a draft proposal and foundational action description for the WRA TC's review.

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9. FY2010-11 WRA BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Committee is still finalizing a draft budget and verifying what funds will be available for the project budget based on member agency contributions. Jacques reviewed potential recommendations for a 2010-11 work program. He anticipates the direction will be toward funding foundational actions for the next fiscal year. The first priority discussed was the development of the surface water monitoring program Foundational Action to the level of the groundwater monitoring program. Concerns were expressed that the mercury action presents big issues not under the control of the WRA. Jacques suggested that the WRA act proactively by watching out for member agency's interests. The TC can be used as a vehicle for moving forward sequentially by creating a thoughtful, long-term work plan. The 2010-11 budget will separately include the groundwater monitoring program component again this year for those WRA member agencies that have agreed to participate and provide contributions.

ACTION ITEM:

The TC will discuss and decide on a 2010-11 work program in June, after the availability of project funds are determined.

10. MEMBER INFORMATION & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

June Agenda: Final TC recommendations for FY 2010-11 project funds
 Sacramento River Watershed Program presentation

11. NEXT TC MEETING DATE: June 3, 2010, 8:30 -10:30 a.m., at the Woodland Community & Senior Center, 2001 East St.

12. ADJOURN at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Gentile

Donna L. Gentile, WRA Board Secretary & Administrative Coordinator